

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method of forming a nonwoven fabric suitable for metal-finishing
buffing operations includes providing a precursor web comprising polyester,
staple length fibers, with hydroentanglement of the web effected to impart
desired physical characteristics. Hydroentanglement is effected on a three-
dimensional, image transfer device having an array of three-dimensional surface
elements for patterning the fabric which is formed. Application of a binder
composition lends desired durability to the fabric, with the binder composition
preferably including a melamine polymeric composition to achieve the desired
10 strength and abrasion resistance.